



Volume 10 Issue 2

Summer 2010



# LAKE COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE

## Engineering Lake County's Future



## From Jim's Desk:

Summer's here! Orange barrels are back from their Florida winter quarters and they are everywhere in Lake County. The road crew is on summer hours, 4 10's giving us two (2) extra hours of work a day and allowing us to be more efficient when we're doing the roadway repairs.

Fairgrounds Road, our ARRA project, is well underway. Work will be suspended during Fair Week in August, but otherwise they're working. There have been a few minor issues but overall the work is progressing smoothly.

Construction on Booth and Sperry Road bridges is progressing. They are driving the pile foundations and hope to complete the abutments by the end of the summer. Funding for this project is provided by CEAO and Public Works. The Village of Kirtland Hills is providing funds for the intersection improvements as part of the same project.

The Engineer's office is handling (as sponsor) Concord Township's Connector Project. We have hired Wilbur Smith and Associates to provide planning and design services. The project will proceed under ODOT's minor PDP process.

Lake County will receive a second ARRA project this fall. Lake Road Phase II in Madison Township will receive all remaining turn back funds from the NOACA allocation. To date we are to receive \$2,000,000. However there may be more funds available from other project turn backs. Lake Road is a complete rebuild of roadway and storm sewer with an estimated cost of \$3,500,000. NOACA will fund the balance at 80/20. The County will save from \$400,000 to \$700,000 depending on the final ARRA funds.

Again our road crews are on our County roads doing repairs. Please drive carefully in all construction areas.



James R. Gills, P.E., P.S.  
Lake County Engineer

### Special points of interest:

- Information Now REALLY at our Fingertips!
- Defensive Driving
- Township Projects
- Achieve Wellness
- Employee News



"Be thankful for what you have; you'll end up having more. If you concentrate on what you don't have, you will never, ever have enough."

[Mother Theresa](#)

Editor: Bonnie Green

# Information Now REALLY at Our Fingertips!

Kirk D.Dimmick, P.E.  
Bridge Engineer

Not too long ago, most of us can remember the only way this office retrieved any record information involved searching for paper in a file somewhere far far away in a drawer. Over the last decade, this office has been committed to developing a more efficient way to save, retrieve and manage the hemp. Just in the last few years through the efforts of the GIS department and Ingrid Panic, our in-house coordinator, real time data retrieval is accomplished using software programs from the desktop and field computers.

**Pictometry** software displays aerial images from multiple angles of view anywhere in Lake County to assist with such global issues as regional drainage or close up topics relating accurate size and shapes of objects that would normally require field measurements. This application saves time and resources allowing staff to problem solve or plan improvements without leaving the office.

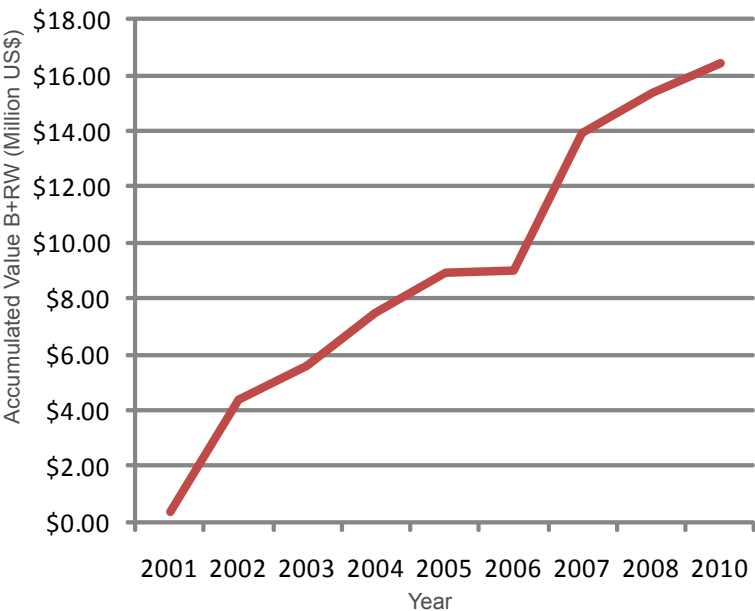
Andy Assel, SR2 Maintenance Supervisor, was able to work with other staff recently to verify meandering SR2 drainage (walking the field did not easily reveal this information).

**ESRI ArcView** software manages various fields of data that can easily be retrieved by clicking the mouse on the Lake County Map. Selection by visual (using the mouse) or typing the street address reveals data associated with the location. De-

pending on what data you are searching, retrieval of information within the Lake County Engineers jurisdiction can display current survey, traffic, financial, roadway, bridge, retaining wall, culverts, storm sewers, watersheds, and soils information; all just a click away. This information can be managed and displayed by graph, in tables or even a simple map. Evaluations can now easily show us what we have County wide and use this tool to better plan for the future.

As an example, the Bridge & Retaining Wall assets were reviewed over the last decade using this software showing the County investing over \$16 million to replace or improve more than 30 percent of the total structures in our inventory. This new system of fingertip management has emerged as a more independent, reliable and sustainable archive of information that can efficiently be shared with our staff, other County offices and the public. The future of how this office does business stands squarely on the shoulders of the current effort put forth by the entire staff. Think about how you can enhance or utilize this new system....Jump in!

ACCUMULATED VALUE OF BRIDGES & RETAINING WALLS 2001 - 2010



## Defensive Driving

*Erin Fink, P.E.  
Design Engineer*



The number of automobile accidents that occur every year is a staggering amount. There are over 6 million accidents on US roads. More than 40,000 people die in car accidents, more than 3 million people suffer injuries of which 2 million of these are permanent. Developing a defensive mind and

skill set can drastically reduce your chances of being involved in an automobile accident.

The #1 unsafe driving behavior that contributes to collisions and violations is speeding.

When traveling, use time management, monitor your speed regularly and be careful and alert. Consciously lower your speed when entering work and school zones. If a vehicle is tailgating you, do not increase your speed. Slow down and let the other vehicle pass.

A good majority of urban crashes occur at intersections. Right-of-way violations are related to more injuries than any other improper driving behavior. They include failure to yield, disregarding a traffic signal and running or rolling through a stop sign.

Passing other vehicles is common in the driving world. To reduce the

chance of facing a hazardous event during this situation, scan the road ahead and adjust your driving speed to the condition of the road. Avoid driver distractions, such as talking on a cell phone or eating while driving.

Following too closely behind a vehicle, or tailgating, is a common occurrence on our roadways, the biggest hazard being a rear end collision. Stopping distances for vehicles depend on many factors: vehicle weight, road surface, driver condition, and weather conditions. Always allow sufficient distance between you and the car in front of you.

Being a defensive driver can make all the difference in your life as well as the lives of others. Defensive driving protects us from what is happening around us and most importantly protects us and our loved ones :o)

- Making safe and legal driving decisions.
- Creating a safe, stress-free personal driving space in and around your vehicle.
- Driving to your destination safely – without a ticket or a crash, and without affecting other drivers' safety.
- Practice common sense, courtesy, and cooperation.
- Recognizing the risks of hazardous driving behaviors and conditions.

## Township Projects

*Ted Galuschik, P.E.  
Maintenance/Highway Engineer*

One of the duties of the County Engineer is being the engineer for the various Townships. Our office provides this service for the Townships at their request. During construction season, we prepare the plans and specifications for most Township projects. We also provide construction administration service for these projects. This construction season we provided service to Concord, Madison and Painesville Township.

The Concord Township project was the total reconstruction of roadways in the Eagle Ridge Subdivision, which is off Pinecrest Road. Our office prepared specifications for three different options for bidding. Option 1 was reconstructing the roads using asphalt. Option 2 was using concrete. Option 3 was a six-inch concrete whitetopping project. At the bid opening, ten contractors submitted bids for one or more of the various options. After reviewing the various bids, the Township chose the concrete option and awarded a contract to Great Lakes Crushing, Ltd. for the bid amount of \$387,772.50. Work is scheduled to begin in the middle of August.

Madison Township's Road Program for this year was a cape seal for three township roads. A cape seal consists of a nor-

mal chip seal that is common throughout northeast Ohio. In addition, a fog seal is sprayed on the roadway to lock down any loose material. This fog seal is applied approximately a week after the chip seal process has been completed. This is the second year Madison Township has used this chip seal process, with huge success. The 2010 Road Program included Lake Road, Indianola Drive and Shore Drive. The project will be completed by August 13, 2010 at a cost of \$80,675.00.

The Painesville Township Road Program for 2010 was a Concrete Road Repair Project. The Township obtained OPWC funding for a portion of the project. The project consisted of removing poor concrete roadway sections and replacing with new concrete. This is the third construction season the Township has done this type of project. The Township Trustees awarded the contract to TC Construction, Inc. for a total of \$268,362.50. The roadways in this project are Buxton Circle and Westfield Circle. Also, included are the intersections of Cedar Glen/Cross Creek, Dartmouth/Fanwood, Dorthea/Hawk Ridge and Lanark/Retford.



*Traci A. Salkiewicz, P.E.  
Traffic Engineer*

ACHIEVE is a collaborative partnership between city and county health officials, city and county government, tribal programs, parks and recreation departments, local YMCAs, local health-related coalitions, and other representatives from the school, business, health, and community sectors to implement improvements and address community risk factors in five specific sectors of the community. State departments of health and other state-level partners provide additional resources and information to help communities meet their goals. ACHIEVE communities develop and implement policy, systems, and environmental change strategies that can help prevent or manage health risk factors for heart disease, stroke, diabetes, cancer, obesity, and arthritis.

Did you know that:

- Despite higher-than-average median home values and education level, the county is challenged by many chronic disease problems and risk factors. Diseases of the heart, cancer, stroke, lower respiratory disease, diabetes mellitus, and unintentional injuries accounted for 72.7% of resident deaths during 2004-2006.
- Heart disease was the leading cause of death for Lake County residents in 2004-2006; cancer was the second leading cause of death.
- In Lake County, an average of 120 residents died from a stroke each year during 2004-2006. 27.5% of the adult residents reported having high blood pressure and 2.8% had previously had a stroke.
- 37.5% of adult residents had been told by their doctor their cholesterol was high. The estimated prevalence of diabetes among Lake County adult residents was 8% during 2004-2007. An average of 74 residents died each year from diabetes.
- During 2004-2007, 22.3% of adult residents reported being current cigarette smokers, 37.3% were overweight, and 25.1% were obese. Each of these factors increases the risk of developing a chronic disease.
- 10.8% of third-grade children were considered to be overweight in Lake County during 2004-2005.
- Of adults in Lake County, 77.8% reported consuming fewer than the minimum recommended five servings of fruits and vegetables daily, a risk factor for heart disease, stroke, and cancer. Physical inactivity is a risk factor for being overweight or obese; of adults in Lake County, 22.7% are physically inactive. 37.3% of adults were overweight in the timeframe 2004-2007 and 25.1% of adults were considered obese.

In Lake County, ACHIEVE aims to address these risk factors present in the community by:

- providing education on healthy lifestyles,
- encouraging residents to consume nutritious foods, and
- supporting residents to engage in higher levels of physical activity.

Key activities in the program's four targeted sectors during the three year span of program implementation are highlighted below:

- A. Community-at-Large:** community-wide efforts that impact the social and built environments, such as improving food access, walkability or bikeability, secondhand smoke exposure, or personal safety.
- B. Schools:** all primary and secondary learning institutions (e.g., elementary, middle, and high schools, whether private, public, or parochial).
- C. Community Institutions/Organizations:** entities within the community that provide a broad range of human services and access to facilities (e.g., childcare settings, faith-based organizations, senior centers, boys and girls clubs, colleges/universities).
- D. Worksites:** places of employment (e.g., private offices, restaurants, retail establishments, government offices).

#### **Future plans**

ACHIEVE Wellness—Lake County plans to meet with local parks and recreation partners to plan a second county-wide bike day in 2010, and is currently planning to meet with elected officials and school leaders to disseminate information about the program and engage them in activities for Year Two of the program. Efforts to engage local businesses will also continue and worksite wellness plans focusing on physical activity and nutrition have been drafted. The program continues to seek out opportunities to impact policy and environmental changes in the county. The program has been successful in engaging local leaders from many sectors and to capitalize on the experience and expertise of CHART members. As the majority of the first year has focused on program start-up and implementation, attention will turn to evaluating the outcomes associated with these activities and initiatives as the program continues to develop. Support from community leaders and local residents are perceived as key components for future success.

**For more information visit**

[www.lakecountyohio.gov/achieve](http://www.lakecountyohio.gov/achieve)

## Employee Anniversaries — July—December, 2010

*"Thank you for your years of service. Your hard work is appreciated!"*

July			
Robert R.	Welk	30	Years
Keith A.	Jacobs	22	Years
Jeffrey E.	Gertz	21	Years
Raymond L.	Martin	21	Years
David A.	Phares	10	Years
Nancy J.	Stanziale	8	Years
Christopher R.	Bernard	8	Years
Ryan T.	Exum	8	Years
Laszlo	Szantho	8	Years
August			
Alan L.	Exley	16	Years
James R.	Branch	10	Years
Theodore J.	Galuschik	9	Years
Steven T.	Borelli	4	Years
Erin M.	Fink	2	Years
September			
Lawrence M.	Kral	29	Years
Wesley M.	Edwards	13	Years
Joseph A.	Giblock	4	Years
Thomas M.	Trivisonno	3	Years

October			
Ingrid	Panic	6	Years
November			
David S.	Tirpak	33	Years
Joseph A.	Shoop	29	Years
Bruce A.	Gurley	28	Years
Louis K.	Malek	9	Years
Gary J.	Miller	9	Years
Edward B.	Lawson	8	Years
Kathy M.	Howell	7	Years
Gary L.	Nicholson	6	Years
Chad	Sines	3	Years
December			
Thomas G.	Kerestman	30	Years
Donald F.	Dickard	25	Years
Jeffrey W.	Percival	10	Years
Gregory A.	Combs	10	Years
Todd E.	Horne	10	Years
Christopher	Wooden	10	Years

## "GAIN NO MORE" 2010 CHALLENGE

*Peggy Gall  
"Keeper of the Scale"*

The 2010 Biggest Loser Weight Loss Challenge Program concluded on August 6, 2010. Since summertime can be a diet nightmare, the Wellness Committee came up with the "Gain No More" Challenge. Any employee who participated in the 2010 Weight Loss Challenge was eligible to throw \$5.00 into the "Gain No More" Jackpot from their weigh-in date on April 6, 2010 to July 6, 2010.

Congratulations to Shawn McLaughlin and Chris Wooden. Not only did they maintain their weight, but LOST weight over the summer! They and

10 other "summer winners" split the jackpot.

***Yeah Shawn and Chris!!!!***



### Recent Retirements

Mitch Ferguson, Chief Surveyor  
Retired 4/30/10,  
8 years with the LCE

Chuck Kushlan, Supervisor  
Retired 5/31/10  
37 years with the LCE

*"Best Wishes  
in your retirement!"*



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*Engineering Lake County's Future*

**WE'RE ON THE WEB!**

**[WWW.LAKECOUNTYOHIO.GOV/ENGINEER](http://WWW.LAKECOUNTYOHIO.GOV/ENGINEER)**